

Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 21, 2014
at Metro Social Services
800 2nd Avenue North, Suite 100

Present: Diane Kuhn, Kirby Davis, Megan Barry, Steve Samra
Staff: Will Connelly, Judy Tackett, Karri Simpson, Deon Trotter

The meeting began at 8:32 a.m.

Minutes

The minutes of the September 16, 2014 meeting were approved. Steve Samra made the motion; Kirby Davis seconded. All approved.

Financial Report and Budget

Pam McEwen reported that the operating budget was right on target; there were no questions.

Project Homeless Connect had no activity through the end of September; however the event was last week so there will be upcoming expenditures. Satrice Allen, with Metro Social Services, has worked closely with Quiana Jimerson at Room in the Inn to budget for food, tents and awnings, and t-shirts for the event. Additionally, money was allotted to order birth certificates to help remove identification barriers for people experiencing homelessness. Overall, about \$5,000 was spent. Tables and chairs were donated by the State Fair Grounds.

How's Nashville had \$20,000 in furniture costs. Year to date there has been \$66,300 in donations.

CDBG funds spent for the month of September were \$2,800. Year to date, \$11,200 CDBG funds have been spent.

Megan Barry wants to know where the CABHI grant fits into the budget. Will Connelly stated that it will be contracted out of the Metro Homelessness Commission, so fund will fall under that budget and not the one for How's Nashville.

Director's Report

- **How's Nashville:** There were more housing placements in September than in any other month this year, close to 60 people. The housing report will be sent out soon and another housing retention report is in the works. The average housing placements is still 46 per month.

How's Nashville applied for "Zero 2016," the new iteration of the 100,000 Homes Campaign. A formal application was submitted to join the campaign, with signatures from local MDHA, VA, and CoC representatives. This campaign is focused on the federal goals to end veteran homelessness by December 2015 and chronic homelessness by December 2016. This effort is not funded but if selected you do receive access to technical assistance.

Megan Barry asked if any community has ended homelessness. Will Connelly stated that Phoenix and Salt Lake City have stated they ended veteran homelessness, but there have been reports of homeless veterans since; however, if that were to happen than the goal would be to have enough housing resources to end their experience in 30 days.

- **CABHI Grant:** The state was awarded this grant from SAMSHA, focused on ending veteran and chronic homelessness, and the Metro Homelessness Commission will receive the portion for Davidson County. The local outcome is to help 360 people experiencing homelessness over a three year period.

Currently awaiting a letter from the state and once that is received, detailing the award, and then the RFP contract process can begin. The goal is to be delivering services no later than February.

Megan Barry asked if all the money received goes directly to services or is there cost for administration. Will Connelly stated that 10% of the grant fund will be for data and a certain percentage can go to admin costs. However, he stated they are trying to avoid Metro government taking an indirect cost cut, which according to Pam McEwen, is usually about 29%. Will Connelly is working to get a waiver so that Metro Government cannot take that percentage.

- **Strategic Planning:** This will be a joint planning process between the CoC and the Commission. Will Connelly and Erik Cole submitted a proposal to the Frist Foundation and were awarded \$20,000 to cover costs for this effort. He stated they are currently figuring out the process to use this money. Due to funding applications for the CoC being due, usually, in June, Will Connelly added that they are hoping to have thought through most of the strategic planning by end of February. The outcomes of this process would direct the planning process for the HUD NOFA and the Commission for the next several years. Will Connelly will present on this at the full Commission meeting in November.

Public Library

An email from Kent Oliver, with the Nashville Public Library, was received stating they are not going to proceed with changing their current policy regarding where individuals can stand/sit. Will Connelly added that he is currently working with Kent to add services to the new 3rd floor of the library.

Cold Weather Report

Judy Tackett stated that the completed cold weather plan will be presented at the November 7th Commission meeting. Deon Trotter has been working on the transportation issues and asks that need to be made. Additionally, an "All Call Coordinator" is needed, stationed ideally at Room in the Inn, to oversee processes. A representative from Metro Government was not at the last committee meeting, so asks could not be made. Currently Metro Government hasn't committed any money. In regards to transportation, the ask is for bus cards that can be activated when temperatures drop, rather than a monetary fund.

Current gaps identified in the cold weather plan include those who do not want to stay in the shelter system, families with children, and individuals with pets.

For those individuals who choose not to go inside during extreme weather situations, part of the request from the group is for cold weather supplies. Additionally, a group of mental health and legal professionals are being consulted look at the question regarding when can you legally force someone indoors? Steve Samra expressed his concern that this could potentially turn ugly, infringing on individual's rights.

Announcements

Steve Samra announced that next Thursday an organization from Denmark will be visiting Nashville to tour Room in the Inn and Operation Stand Down Tennessee.

Judy Tackett thanked Karri Simpson and Deon Trotter for their recent work on the Housing Navigator Trainings.

Megan Barry Motioned to adjourn the meeting; Steve Samra seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

The next full Commission Meeting will be held on Friday, November 7, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. at the Howard Office Building.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, November 18 at 8:30 a.m. at Metro Social Services.